

## DAVID QUINLAN reviews a sci-fi action comedy starring wrestler hero, HULK HOGAN

here spouting such dialogue as, "I spend more time saving worlds than living in them," than as a kind of inter-galactic straight man.

It's a comment on Hogan's way-out presence and appearance that the wild-haired, wild-eyed Christopher Lloyd is allowed to represent the essence of normality as the head of the suburban family upon whom Hogan descends.

Lloyd can't quite grasp the concept of alien bounty hunters out to get the incredible Hulk. "A couple of leeches," growls Hogan, by way of explanation, "that make their living off the blood of others!" "You mean" gasps Lloyd, "investment bankers?"

It's in keeping with this line of humour that not many things in *Suburban Commando* turn out the way you'd expect. Angering a group of musclebound bikers by lifting one of their machines out of the way so that Lloyd can garage his car, Hulk prepares for the mother of all battles. "Oh, no," he's told, "we're gonna sue you!"

And, rescuing a little girl's cat by pulling

Producer  
HOWARD GOTTFRIED  
Director  
BURT KENNEDY  
Screenplay  
FRANK CAPPELLO  
Photography  
BERND HEINL  
91 Minutes - Certificate PG  
(ENTERTAINMENT)

Shep Ramsey .... HULK HOGAN  
Charlie Wilcox .... CHRISTOPHER LLOYD  
Jenny Wilcox .... SHELLEY DUVALL  
Gen Suitor .... WILLIAM BALL  
Theresa Wilcox .... LAURA MOONEY  
Mark Wilcox .... MICHAEL FAUSTINO  
Beltz .... LARRY MILLER  
Knuckles .... TONY LONGO  
Margie .... JOANN DEARING  
Zanuck .... ROY DOTRICE  
Hutch .... MARK CALAWAY  
Commander .... CHRISTOPHER NEAME

down a thick branch, Hulk, finding it's not the right cat, lets go, hurling the animal a few miles into the air.

The comic talents of Shelley Duvall are rather wasted as Lloyd's wife, but Larry Miller is on the ball as a comically nasty tycoon, in a movie that's by no means great, but more fun than most.

# SUBURBAN COMMANDO

● PREVIOUSLY only seen in *No Holds Barred* and *Rocky III*, fearsomely charismatic wrestler Hulk Hogan makes a major bid for big-screen stardom in *Suburban Commando*.

'Hulkmania' began in 1984, when the 6 foot 7 inch wrestler (just don't call him Goldilocks) first won the World Wrestling Federation title, which he continued to hold through most of the Eighties.

One of his greatest and most memorable feats was accomplished in 1987 when he successfully body-slammed and pinned the 7 foot 4 inch, 500-pound André the Giant before a world record crowd at Wrestle Mania III. This still holds the record of the most attended indoor event, surpassing previous records held by - The Rolling Stones and The Pope!

A born-again Christian devoted to his wife and daughter, Hogan plans to make only films that have a built-in family appeal. For getting about, he prefers to ride one of his nine Harley-Davidson motorbikes. As he says: "I'm too big to fit comfortably into many cars."

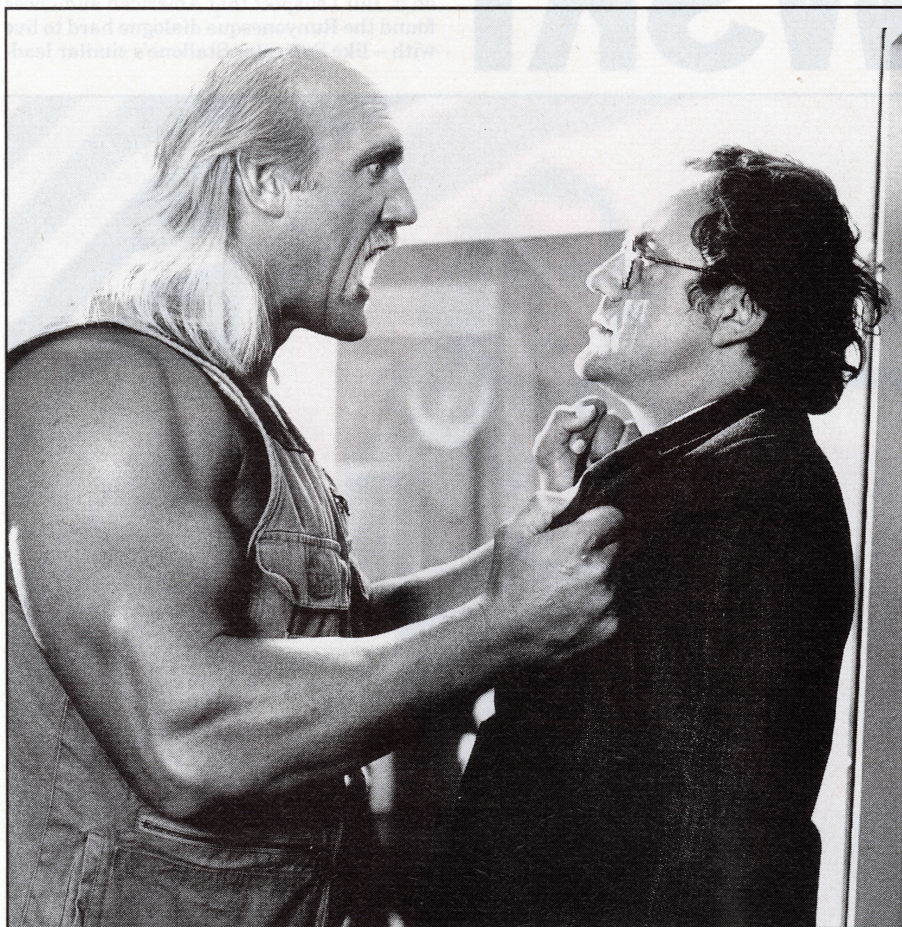
Though he's mean in the ring, the Hulk is squeaky-clean outside it - and makes no bones about pushing his religious beliefs. When he met a young boy dying of cancer, Hulk told him "that one day he and I would wrestle in Heaven. Some parents get upset when I say things like that to their kids. But I have such an influence on youngsters, I feel that it's my duty to guide them."

So what's his advice to junior Hulksters? Three things, says Hogan. "Train your body, say your prayers and eat your vitamins."

### VERDICT

● Wrestler Hulk Hogan takes on a new guise as a space warrior in a science-fiction action-comedy that shows his wrestling days to have taught him the full range of facial expressions, majoring in anguished looks.

Not surprisingly then, our fiercely-glaring star of grunt-and-grapple proves less successful



RATINGS      PERFORMANCES 6      DIRECTION 7  
SCRIPT 7      PRODUCTION 6      ENTERTAINMENT VALUE 7